



Port Community Information Bulletin # 05-04
Marine Safety Office (813) 228-2193
Tampa, Florida

Effective Date: March 29, 2004
Expiration Date: March 29, 2005

SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL PLAN REVIEW

Please be advised that due to increased port security operations and personnel resource constraints imposed on the Coast Guard since September 2001, all new vessel plan review must be submitted to the Coast Guard Marine Safety Center (MSC) in Washington, D.C. for review. Specifically, for small passenger vessels, all cites relating to the OCMI performing plan review noted in 46 Code of Federal Regulation Part 177 must be submitted to MSC. Please copy this office in all correspondence with MSC. It is encouraged that all plans be approved by MSC prior to beginning construction of the vessel or making modifications/alterations as a Coast Guard marine inspector must witness and accept all stages of this process. If the construction or modification/alteration is started prior to approval this may delay the vessel certification process to place the vessel in service if the plans have to be resubmitted to reflect the "as built" condition of the vessel.

Request for consideration as "sister vessel" construction under 46 Code of Federal Regulations Part 177.210 should be sent to MSO Tampa Prevention Department for review. Any changes to original approved "sister vessel" plans will not be accepted. A "sister vessel" must be constructed to the exact specifications as previously approved with no modifications. Please plan accordingly as submittals to this office may take up to 90 days to process.

For submittals to MSC, due to possible delays from a large volume of plans being submitted there are several options to consider in order to expedite a plan review request:

- a. Contact a marine surveyor knowledgeable in small passenger vessel plan review preparation and submittal prior to submitting your initial set of plans. This should help to minimize required resubmissions and following the instructions on their web site at:
www.uscg.mil/hq/msc/submitplans.htm.
- b. You may choose to submit your plan review to the MSC via the services of a Professional Engineer or Naval Architect. These accredited individuals may submit plans on your behalf to the MSC in accordance with Navigation Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 10-92 Change 1. This circular can be found at the following web site: http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/10_92/n10-92.htm.

The address of the Marine Safety Center is: Commanding Officer (MSC-1)
U. S. Coast Guard
Marine Safety Center
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001
Attn: Small Passenger Vessel Plan Review (H-1)

If you have any questions, you may contact Patrick McLaughlin at 813-228-2191 Ext 8131.

J. M. FARLEY
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Officer in Charge Marine Inspection